

page 2 of 7

CLAIMS

1. (original) An ice fishing hole cover device for use in minimizing ice formation over an existing open ice fishing hole and for use in convenient rapid disassembly of said device, said device comprising:
 - 5 a pair of upper panels, each upper panel having a generally rectangular shape with two opposing horizontal side edges, an inside edge, and an outside edge, said horizontal side edges of each upper panel are substantially parallel to each other, each horizontal side edge of each upper panel having a width;
 - 10 a plurality of quick release locks, each lock comprising a first part and a complementary matching second part, wherein said first and second parts of each lock are releaseably interlocked together; a pair of end panels, each end panel having a generally rectangular shape with two vertical edges and two horizontal edges, each vertical edge of each end panel having a width and having at least one of said first parts of said plurality of locks attached to each vertical edge of each end panel, whereby each end panel having at least two of said first parts of said plurality of locks attached to each end panel; and
 - 15 a pair of side panels slidably attached to said pair of end panels and slidably attached to said pair of upper panels forming said device having a centrally disposed hollow chamber, each side panel having a generally rectangular shape, each side panel including:
 - 20 a pair of vertical dados entrenched into opposing vertical side edges in a common face of each side panel, said pair of vertical dados in each side panel are substantially parallel to each other, each vertical dado having a width equal to or greater than the width of each vertical edge of each end panel, each vertical dado having at least one of said second parts of said plurality of locks attached to each vertical dado, whereby each side panel having at least two of said second parts of said plurality of locks; and
 - 25 a horizontal dado entrenched into a horizontal top edge into the common face of each side panel, said horizontal dado of each side panel is substantially perpendicular to said pair of vertical dados of each side panel, said horizontal dado of each side panel having a width equal to or greater than the width of each horizontal side edge of each upper panel,
 - 30 wherein when said pair of side panels are slidably attached to said pair of end panels then said first and second parts of each lock of said plurality of locks are interlocked together.

page 3 of 7

2. (original) The device of Claim 1 further comprising a candle holder mounted within the centrally disposed hollow chamber of said device.

5 3. (original) The device of Claim 1 further comprising a candle mounted within the centrally disposed hollow chamber of said device.

4. (original) The device of Claim 1 further comprising a strap attached around said device.

10 5. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein said inside edge of each upper panel has a concave sleeve attached to each inside edge of each upper panel, when said inside edges of said pair of upper panels are abutted together then said concave sleeves of said inside edges of said upper panel define a fish line orifice extending into the centrally disposed hollow chamber of said device.

6. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein said outside edge of each upper panel having an arcuate curved collar traversing through said outside edge of each upper panel, said arcuate curved collar defining a handgrip in each upper panel.

15 7. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein each first part of each lock of said plurality of quick release locks comprises a male dimple protrusion, and each second part of each lock of said plurality of quick release locks comprises a complementary female dimple crevice.

8. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein each first part of each lock of said plurality of quick release locks comprises a female dimple crevice, and each second part of each lock of said plurality of quick release locks comprises a complementary male dimple protrusion.

20 9. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein said strap is selected from the group consisting of an elastic band, a rope, a string, a cotton cord, a jute cord, a leather belt, and a nylon cord.

10. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein said panels are made from a polymeric material selected 25 from the group consisting of polyvinyl chloride, polyester, polypropylene, polyurethanes, polyacryls, polymethacryls, cellulosic polymers, styrene-acryl copolymers, polystyrene-polyacryl mixtures, polysiloxanes, urethane-acryl copolymers, siloxane-urethane copolymers, polyurethane-polymethacryl mixtures, silicone-acryl copolymers, vinyl acetate polymers, and mixtures thereof.

11. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein said panels are made of wood selected from the group 30 consisting of ash, aspen, birch, elm, fir, locust, maple, oak, pine, and walnut.

12. (original) A kit for assembling an ice fishing hole cover device for use in minimizing ice formation over an existing open ice fishing hole and for use in convenient rapid disassembly of the device, said

page 4 of 7

kit comprising:

a pair of upper panels, each upper panel having a generally rectangular shape with two opposing horizontal side edges, an inside edge, and an outside edge, said horizontal side edges of each upper panel are substantially parallel to each other, each horizontal side edge of each upper panel having a width;

5 a plurality of quick release locks, each lock comprising a first part and a complementary matching second part, wherein said first and second parts of each lock are releaseably interlockable together;

10 a pair of end panels, each end panel having a generally rectangular shape with two vertical edges and two horizontal edges, each vertical edge of each end panel having a width and having at least one of said first parts of said plurality of locks attached to each vertical edge of each end panel, whereby each end panel having at least two of said first parts of said plurality of locks attached to each end panel; and

15 a pair of side panels slidably attachable to said pair of end panels and slidably attachable to said pair of upper panels, wherein when said pair of side panels are slidably attached to said pair of end panels and slidably attached to said pair of upper panels then said kit forms the device having a centrally disposed hollow chamber, each side panel having a generally rectangular shape, each side panel including:

20 a pair of vertical dados entrenched into opposing vertical side edges in a common face of each side panel, said pair of vertical dados in each side panel are substantially parallel to each other, each vertical dado having a width equal to or greater than the width of each vertical edge of each end panel, each vertical dado having at least one of said second parts of said plurality of locks attached to each vertical dado, whereby each side panel having at least two of said second parts of said plurality of locks; and

25 a horizontal dado entrenched into a horizontal top edge into the common face of each side panel, said horizontal dado of each side panel is substantially perpendicular to said pair of vertical dados of each side panel, said horizontal dado of each side panel having a width equal to or greater than the width of each horizontal side edge of each upper panel,

wherein when said pair of side panels are slidably attached to said pair of end panels then said first and second parts of each lock of said plurality of locks are interlocked together.

30 13. (original) The kit of Claim 12 further comprising a candleholder.

14. (original) The kit of Claim 12 further comprising a candle.

page 5 of 7

15. (original) The kit of Claim 12 further comprising a strap wrapped around said pair of upper panels, said pair of end panels, and said pair of side panels.

16. (original) The kit of Claim 12 wherein said inside edge of each upper panel having a concave sleeve attached to each inside edge of each upper panel, when said inside edges of said pair of upper panels are abutted together then said concave sleeves of said inside edges of said upper panel define a fish line orifice extending into the centrally disposed hollow chamber of said device

5 17. (original) The kit of Claim 12 wherein said outside edge of each upper panel having an arcuate curved collar traversing through said outside edge of each upper panel, said arcuate curved collar defining a handgrip in each upper panel.

10 18. (original) The kit of Claim 12 wherein each first part of each lock of said plurality of quick release locks comprises a male dimple protrusion, and each second part of each lock of said plurality of quick release locks comprises a complementary female dimple crevice.

19. (original) The kit of Claim 12 wherein each first part of each lock of said plurality of quick release locks comprises a female dimple crevice, and each second part of each lock of said plurality of quick release locks comprises a complementary male dimple protrusion

15 20. (withdrawn)